2006 Virginia Interoperable Communications Conference Agenda

October 3, 2006

8:30 AM   **Registration & Continental Breakfast**   *Portsmouth Ballroom Foyer*

9:00 AM   **Welcome**   *Portsmouth Ballroom I-IV*
Chris Essid, Commonwealth Interoperability Coordinator

9:15 AM   **Opening Remarks**   *Portsmouth Ballroom I-IV*
Bob Crouch, Assistant to the Governor for Commonwealth Preparedness

9:45 AM   **Thank You & Introductions**   *Portsmouth Ballroom I-IV*
Chris Essid, Commonwealth Interoperability Coordinator

10:00 AM   **Review of the FY 2007 Strategic Plan for**   *Portsmouth Ballroom I-IV*
Statewide Communications Interoperability

Panel Members: State Interoperability Executive Committee

This session will focus on the FY 2007 Strategic Plan, including new and continuing initiatives. This session will also provide an opportunity for participants to discover who their representative is on the SIEC.

11:00 AM   <u>**Breakout Sessions – The Key Products of the FY 2006 Statewide Plan**</u>

Breakout 1:   *Portsmouth Ballroom V*
The Move to Statewide Common Language Protocols

Panel Members:
Jim Junkins, Association of Public Safety Communications Officials
LTC H.C. Davis, Virginia State Police
Bill Bullock, Virginia Association of Governmental EMS Administrators
Bob Nibarger, Virginia Beach 911 Emergency Communications

In FY 2006, an Initiative Action Team was established to develop a common language best practice for the Commonwealth. Already endorsed by the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police and the Virginia Fire Chiefs Association, the best practice is now ready for public comment, endorsement and, ultimately, implementation. This session is designed to introduce the protocol to Virginia's stakeholders and plan for next steps.

Breakout 2: *Case Study Amphitheater*
The Status of Technical Standards Development and
the Potential Impact on Virginia's Practitioners

Panel Members:
Dorothy Spears-Dean, Virginia Information Technologies Agency
Dereck Orr, Program Manager, NIST-Office of Law Enforcement Standards
Steve Souder, Fairfax County Department of Public Safety Communications

The Initiative Action Team chartered to discover the impact of standards development on Virginia's practitioners found that many challenges still exist in reaching standards that can be used when purchasing equipment. They also found that some strides have been made to make this process faster and more transparent. This session is designed to offer an interactive forum to express concerns, talk about interim solutions and provide up-to-date information about the standards development process.

Breakout 3: *Portsmouth Ballroom VI-VIII*
Understanding Mutual Aid and Interoperability Channels Statewide

Panel Members:
Jim Sobecke, Mutual Aid and Interoperability IAT Co-Lead
Don Bowers, Fairfax County Fire & Rescue
Charlie Hoffman, NTIA – Emergency Planning & Public Safety Division
Doug Onhaizer (invited), Virginia Beach Communications and IT Administrator

Currently, there are a number of mutual aid channels used statewide for interoperability during major events. The FCC also provides several designated interoperability channels in each frequency band. This session is designed to define the difference (and similarities) between state mutual aid and federal interoperability channels, discuss how interoperability channels may be used and determine next steps in data collection and usage.

12:30 PM **Luncheon & Keynote Address –** *Holley Ballroom*
Hampton Roads Area Interoperability Projects and Progress

Panel Members:
Doug Onhaizer, Virginia Beach Communications and IT Administrator
Rob DeLauney, Radio Systems Engineer, City of Virginia Beach
Paul Torpey, BAE Systems
Dan Guild, Telecommunications Manager, FBI Norfolk Division

1:30 PM **Breakout Sessions – Major Efforts for Voice and Data Interoperability**

Breakout 1: *Portsmouth Ballroom I-IV*
The Commonwealth's Link to Interoperable Communications (COMLINC)

Panel Members:
Steve Marzolf, VITA - Division of Public Safety Communications
Captain Michael Bolton, STARS Program Director, Virginia State Police
Chris Essid, Commonwealth Interoperability Coordinator

Interested in a gateway system that can connect your locality with Virginia State Police, 20 other state agencies and your neighbor? COMLINC will do just that. Come find out how much it may cost, what it is/is not capable of and whether it is right for you and your organization. Success stories and lessons learned from localities that have implemented this technology will be provided.

Breakout 2: *Portsmouth Ballroom V*
Sharing Data Across the Commonwealth

Panel Members:
Harry Colestock, WebEOC
Steve Ennis, Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association
Roddy Moscoso, CapWIN
Representative of the Disaster Management Program

Data sharing is the next wave of interoperability needed in the Commonwealth to ensure that information is conveyed in real time beyond voice. In this session you will hear from some of the major data sharing projects in the Commonwealth and have an opportunity to share new potential solutions.

3:00 PM   **VITA's IT Infrastructure Project** *Portsmouth Ballroom I-IV*

Panel Members:
Steve Marzolf, Virginia Information Technologies Agency
Fred Duball, Virginia Information Technologies Agency

The Virginia Information Technologies Agency is laying the backbone for a major IT infrastructure that will carry first responder communications. In this session you will discover how the new infrastructure may impact your system by improving efficiency and reducing operating costs.

4:00 PM   **Closing (Please visit our Exhibitor Hall)**

7:00 PM   Hospitality Suite, sponsored by Sprint/Nextel *Renaissance Portsmouth Hotel*   *Presidential Suite*

8:30 AM   **Continental Breakfast**   *Portsmouth Ballroom Foyer*

9:00 AM   **Welcome Back**   *Portsmouth Ballroom I-IV*
                 Chris Essid, Commonwealth Interoperability Coordinator

9:15 AM   **The Federal Perspective Panel**   *Portsmouth Ballroom I-IV*

                 Panel Members:
                 Dr. David Boyd, DHS Office of Interoperability & Compatibility/SAFECOM
                 Joe Heaps, CommTech Portfolio Manager, National Institute of Justice
                 Marilyn Praisner, Montgomery County, Maryland Council Member
                 Dan Hawkins, SEARCH

                 Populated with some of Virginia's biggest champions, this panel will offer a unique federal
                 perspective for the Commonwealth's practitioners. The panel will provide insight on how
                 Virginia's interoperability effort is supported by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's
                 SAFECOM Program, the U.S. Department of Justice's National Institute of Justice and other key
                 stakeholders.

10:30 AM   **Breakout Sessions – Interoperability Lessons and Looking Towards the Horizon**

                 Breakout 1:   *Portsmouth Ballroom V*
                 Care and Feeding – Lessons in Maintaining a Radio Cache

                 Panel Members:
                 Wes Rogers, Fairfax County Fire & Rescue
                 Alex Fitch, Fairfax City Fire Department
                 John Freeburger, Montgomery County, Maryland Fire & Rescue

                 The National Capital Region (NCR) has successfully installed a radio cache for its participating
                 jurisdictions. During this session, the NCR will provide an overview of their radio cache strategy
                 and we will begin planning for Virginia's own statewide radio cache.

                 Breakout 2:   *Portsmouth Ballroom VI-VIII*
                 Lessons Learned and Next Steps for 800 MHz Rebanding

                 Panel Members:
                 David "Duff" Barney, Fairfax County Department of Information Technology
                 David Warner, Virginia Information Technologies Agency
                 Doug Onhaizer (invited), Virginia Beach Communications and IT Administrator

                 This session will review the progress made towards 800 MHz rebanding, discuss recent
                 developments from the Transition Administration and allow localities to share their lessons
                 learned and strategize to leverage best practices.

Breakout 3: *Portsmouth Ballroom I-IV*
Focus on the Local Grants Process– The Future of Funding

Panel Members:
Cheryl Adkins, Virginia Department of Emergency Management
Tim Paul, Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services
Charles Werner, SIEC Chair and Chief, Charlottesville Fire Department
Chris Essid, Commonwealth Interoperability Coordinator

The Federal government has recently changed the face of grant funding by initiating a competitive process for states to receive homeland security funding. This directly impacts Virginia's localities, as they will now be required to request specific projects that advance capabilities statewide. This session will review changes in funding, provide an overview of funding previously awarded, discuss the most current funding available and ask participants to provide input to the Homeland Security Grant Program funding process that will start in December 2006.

12:00 PM **Lunch & Keynote Address –** *Holley Ballroom*
Communications Interoperability in New Orleans: Past, Present and Future

Mark Reis, former Deputy Director of Emergency Medical Services (911)
New Orleans, Louisiana

1:00 PM **Regional Breakout Sessions –** *Portsmouth Ballroom &*
Case Study Amphitheater
**Focus on Regions: Creating Regional Committees for Providing Input
to the Commonwealth**

These regional sessions will allow participants to contribute directly to statewide planning for interoperable communications. The sessions will provide an opportunity for each region to begin to develop a regional plan for funding that addresses their specific needs, such as increased coordination, technological needs, training and exercises, and operational protocols. Funding needs identified in each of these sessions and further defined through the establishment of regional committees will be used in the next round of planning for the Homeland Security Grant Program and the Strategic Plan for Statewide Communications Interoperability. In the future, these interoperability committees will be expanded to address an increasing number of homeland security issues.

3:00 PM **Conference Closing/Special Recognition Event**